Dan Colen

“My work is for people to do whatever they want with; I just put it out there and see what happens.”

Dan Colen makes paintings, sculptures, installations, and photographs which embody a rebelliousness and a directness that has been described as raw and primitive. Colen is celebrated as part of a new artistic vanguard emerging from the culturally irrepressible milieu of New York’s Lower East Side. It is argued that Colen is not only a member of the “gangsta” graffiti movement, but is also a member of a broader, more aesthetic movement.

Dan Colen was born in New York City in 1971. He attended the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, Rhode Island, and received a BFA in 1995. He has had numerous solo exhibitions at galleries in New York and around the world.

The interview with Dan Colen was conducted by Paul Hochland.

1. Puck (2004), digital photograph with digital drawing, 24 x 36cm
3. No Sex No War No Me (2000), screen-printing on plywood, 144 x 232cm
4. Untitled (an Allegory of Faith) (2000), oil on canvas, 215 x 275cm

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The Fourth Season (2008), chewing gum, gum wrappers on canvas, 60.9 x 48cm plus frame

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Above Untitled (2008), oil on canvas, 71 x 56cm plus frame
Right Untitled (2008), oil on canvas, 91.5 x 61cm plus frame
[These works are shown in proportion]